

another mutation or other mutations in the other allele of the mutant *POLG* gene in or near a coding region of the gene.

7. (Amended) A method of claim 1, **characterized** in that the detection of the mutation is performed using a gene-technological method.

9. (Amended) A method of claim 1, **characterized** in that the detection of the mutation or mutations is performed using an immunological method, such as a Western analysis, immunohistology or immunoassay, for characterization of a mutant gene or gene product.


REMARKS

The above amendments are made to place the claims in a more traditional format. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made.**"

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



Arthur R. Crawford
Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:ms
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100